

Summary of Significant Changes

2018 Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices for Soil and Water Quality

Many editorial changes have been made to the 2009 Sustainable Soil and Water Quality Practices on Forest land. Significant changes include:

Section 1 – Introductions

Additional information was added regarding ground and surface water contributions to watersheds. Summary data on forestland was updated based upon the most current FIA information.

Section 2 – Laws and Permits

This section was updated to the current procedure for submission of DEQ permit applications and for inquiries regarding threatened and endangered species.

Section 3 – Fuels, Lubricants and Spills

This section was updated to provide the most recent spill response practices.

Section 5 – Riparian Management Zones

The section on natural river regulations was re-written. Additional information on rare wetland types was added to the fens and bogs subsection.

Section 6 – Forest Roads

Content on former Sections 12 and 13 (Wetland BMPs and Controlling Sediment Movement) were added to this section so that all road topics are combined in one section.

Updated and reorganized the subsections on:

- Forest road construction in forested wetlands
- Forest Road Construction on Organic Wetland Soils
- Roads Constructed on Mineral Soils or a Thin Organic Layer
- Winter Roads

Section 7 – Water Diversion Devices

The subsection of conveyor belt water bars was deleted.

Section 8 – Stream Crossings

The hasty method of determining culvert size has been replaced by the MESBOAC bank-full method and additional information added to the subsection on culvert installation and placement

Sections 9 – Harvest Operations

Sections 9 through 11 in the previous edition on rutting, landings, and skidding have been combined into a new Harvest Operations section.

A new subsection on Harvest Techniques and Equipment was added to this section in response to a DNR forest certification audit finding.

Sections 12 and 13 – Wetland BMPs and Controlling Sediment Movement on Forest Roads

These sections were moved to Section 6 so that all road topics are combined in one section.

Section 14 – Site Preparation, Reforestation and Forest Protection

Subsections on chemical treatments and use of pesticides were combined and additional information is provided for chemical use.

Appendix A

Added new definitions for bankfull width, designated trout stream, forwarding, landing, and open water wetland. Definitions were modified for intermittent stream, ordinary high water mark, vernal pool, water bar, and wetlands. The definition of trout stream was deleted.

Appendix B

Some text was removed regarding nonpoint source pollution law.

Appendix C

The list of many applicable laws has been updated, and Part 761, Aboriginal Records and Antiquities Act, was added.

Appendix D

Frequently asked questions have been updated to be consistent with current DEQ and DNR requirements.